



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7352

January Session, 2019



AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-91j of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (b) On and after July 1, 2019, a local or regional board of education
5 shall not be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to subsection (b) of
6 section 10-76g for any costs of special education paid by such board of
7 education to a private provider of special education services unless
8 such board of education has entered into a written contract with such
9 private provider of special education services for the provision of such
10 special education services. The individualized education program of a
11 child shall not be considered a contract between a local or regional
12 board of education and a private provider of special education services
13 for purposes of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be
14 construed to limit or interrupt the provision of special education and
15 related services to a child by a local or regional board of education or
16 private provider of special education services.

17 Sec. 2. Section 10-16b of the general statutes is repealed and the
18 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

19 (a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall
20 include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally
21 qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education;
22 health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and
23 development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary
24 resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-
25 16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not
26 limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in
27 performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast
28 cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health,
29 physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide
30 prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating
31 to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe
32 use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the
33 dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts,
34 including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling;
35 mathematics; physical education; science, [which may include the]
36 including climate change in accordance with the curriculum described
37 in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but not
38 limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history and
39 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance with
40 the provisions of section 10-18f; computer programming instruction;
41 and in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world
42 languages and vocational education. For purposes of this subsection,
43 world languages shall include American Sign Language, provided
44 such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the
45 supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State
46 Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means
47 any form of visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be
48 limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

49 (b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to
50 take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil
51 identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such
52 pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is

53 made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

54 (c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1,
55 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the
56 Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of
57 Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least
58 the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that
59 such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

60 (d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum
61 materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional
62 boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to
63 this section. The State Board of Education, within available
64 appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist
65 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1)
66 Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical
67 events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American
68 history; (4) Puerto Rican history; (5) Native American history; (6)
69 personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial
70 literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7)
71 training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic
72 external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including organized
73 labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the
74 workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and
75 entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the
76 development of the American and world economies; (9) climate
77 change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10)
78 topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or
79 regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction
80 offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; [and] (11) instruction
81 relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive; and
82 (12) social-emotional learning. The Department of Energy and
83 Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional
84 board of education for the development of curriculum on climate
85 change as described in this subsection.

86 Sec. 3. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-151 of the
87 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
88 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

89 (6) "Tenure" means:

90 (A) The completion of forty school months of full-time continuous
91 employment for the same board of education, provided the
92 superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following
93 school year on the basis of effective practice as informed by
94 performance evaluations conducted pursuant to section 10-151b. For
95 purposes of calculating continuous employment towards tenure, the
96 following shall apply: (i) For a teacher who has not attained tenure,
97 two school months of part-time continuous employment by such
98 teacher shall equal one school month of full-time continuous
99 employment except, for a teacher employed in a part-time position at a
100 salary rate of less than twenty-five per cent of the salary rate of a
101 teacher in such position, if such position were full-time, three school
102 months of part-time continuous employment shall equal one school
103 month of full-time continuous employment; (ii) a teacher who has not
104 attained tenure shall not count layoff time towards tenure, except that
105 if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education within
106 five calendar years of the layoff, such teacher may count the previous
107 continuous employment immediately prior to the layoff towards
108 tenure; (iii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall not count
109 authorized leave time towards tenure if such time exceeds ninety
110 student school days in any one school year, provided only the student
111 school days worked that year by such teacher shall count towards
112 tenure and shall be computed on the basis of eighteen student school
113 days or the greater fraction thereof equaling one school month; (iv) for
114 a teacher who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local
115 or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative
116 arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher may count the
117 previous continuous employment with such board immediately prior
118 to such cooperative arrangement towards tenure; and (v) for a teacher

119 who has not attained tenure and who is employed by a local board of
120 education or as part of a cooperative arrangement, pursuant to section
121 10-158a, and such board or cooperative arrangement joins a regional
122 school district, such teacher may count the previous continuous
123 employment with such local board or cooperative arrangement
124 immediately prior to employment by the regional board of education
125 towards tenure.

126 (B) For a teacher who has attained tenure prior to layoff, tenure shall
127 resume if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education
128 within five calendar years of the layoff.

129 (C) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) [] and (D) [and (E)] of
130 this subdivision, any teacher who has attained tenure with any one
131 board of education and whose employment with such board ends for
132 any reason and who is reemployed by such board or is subsequently
133 employed by any other board, shall attain tenure after completion of
134 twenty school months of continuous employment, provided the
135 superintendent offers the teacher a contract to return for the following
136 school year on the basis of effective practice as informed by
137 performance evaluations conducted pursuant to section 10-151b. The
138 provisions of this subparagraph shall not apply if, (i) prior to
139 completion of the twentieth school month following commencement of
140 employment by such board such teacher has been notified in writing
141 that his or her contract will not be renewed for the following school
142 year, or (ii) for a period of five or more calendar years immediately
143 prior to such subsequent employment, such teacher has not been
144 employed by any board of education.

145 [(D) Any certified teacher or administrator employed by a local or
146 regional board of education for a school district identified as a priority
147 school district pursuant to section 10-266p may attain tenure after ten
148 months of employment in such priority school district, if such certified
149 teacher or administrator previously attained tenure with another local
150 or regional board of education in this state or another state.]

151 [(E)] (D) For a teacher who has attained tenure and is employed by a
152 local or regional board of education that enters into a cooperative
153 arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, such teacher shall not
154 experience a break in continuous employment for purposes of tenure
155 as a result of such cooperative arrangement.

156 [(F)] (E) For a teacher who has attained tenure and is employed by a
157 local board of education or as part of a cooperative arrangement,
158 pursuant to section 10-158a, and such board or cooperative
159 arrangement joins a regional school district, such teacher shall not
160 experience a break in continuous employment for purposes of tenure
161 as a result of joining such regional school district.

162 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working
163 group to study issues relating to the implementation of the pre-service
164 performance assessment, edTPA, as adopted by the State Board of
165 Education on December 7, 2016, as part of teacher preparation
166 programs, as defined in section 10-10a of the general statutes. The
167 working group shall examine how such assessment is being
168 implemented in teacher preparation programs in the state, the
169 financial costs associated with such assessment on institutions of
170 higher education and students enrolled in teacher preparation
171 programs, whether such assessment is evidence-based or a best
172 practice, whether other states are using such assessment as part of
173 teacher preparation programs or requiring completion of such
174 assessment for professional certification, and any effect on world
175 languages instruction.

176 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

177 (1) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

178 (2) One appointed by the Governor, who has expertise in pre-service
179 performance assessments for teacher preparation programs;

180 (3) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing
181 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

182 relating to education, who is a student who is currently enrolled in a
183 teacher preparation program in the state;

184 (4) One appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing
185 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
186 relating to education, who is a professor in a teacher preparation
187 program in the state;

188 (5) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint
189 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
190 matters relating to education, who is a recent graduate of a teacher
191 preparation program in the state; and

192 (6) One appointed by the House ranking member of the joint
193 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
194 matters relating to education, who is a student currently enrolled in a
195 teacher preparation program in the state.

196 (c) All appointments to the working group shall be made not later
197 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
198 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

199 (d) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's
200 designee, shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which
201 shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this
202 section. The members of the working group shall elect the chairperson
203 of the working group from among the members of the working group
204 at the first meeting.

205 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
206 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
207 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

208 (f) Not later than January 1, 2020, the working group shall submit a
209 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
210 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
211 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-

212 4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the
213 date that it submits such report or January 1, 2020, whichever is later.

214 Sec. 5. Section 10-155k of the general statutes is repealed and the
215 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

216 On and after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall
217 establish a School Paraprofessional Advisory Council, which on and
218 after July 1, 2019, shall be known as the School Paraeducator Advisory
219 Council, consisting of (1) one school [paraprofessional] paraeducator
220 from each state-wide bargaining representative organization that
221 represents school [paraprofessionals] paraeducators with instructional
222 responsibilities, (2) one representative from each of the exclusive
223 bargaining units for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section
224 10-153b, (3) the most recent recipient of the Connecticut
225 [Paraprofessional] Paraeducator of the Year Award, (4) two
226 representatives from the regional educational service centers,
227 appointed by the Commissioner of Education, and (5) a school
228 administrator, appointed by the Connecticut Federation of School
229 Administrators. The council shall hold quarterly meetings and advise,
230 at least quarterly, the Commissioner of Education, or the
231 commissioner's designee, of the needs for (A) professional
232 development and the training of [paraprofessionals] paraeducators
233 and the effectiveness of the content and the delivery of existing
234 training for such [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, (B) appropriate
235 staffing strategies for [paraprofessionals] paraeducators, and (C) other
236 relevant issues relating to [paraprofessionals] paraeducators. The
237 council shall report, annually, in accordance with the provisions of
238 section 11-4a, on the recommendations given to the commissioner, or
239 the commissioner's designee, pursuant to the provisions of this section,
240 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
241 cognizance of matters relating to education.

242 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2020, the
243 School Paraeducator Advisory Council, established pursuant to section
244 10-155k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall conduct a

245 study concerning the following: (1) Safety issues relating to
246 paraeducators who work with students who have behavioral issues,
247 including the availability of appropriate safety equipment for
248 paraeducators at each school, (2) issues relating to the assignment of
249 substitute teaching duties to paraeducators, including emergency
250 situations when a paraeducator is asked to serve as a substitute
251 teacher, and (3) issues relating to the duties of paraeducators who
252 work with students who have individualized education programs. The
253 council shall submit such study and any recommendations to the joint
254 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
255 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
256 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

257 Sec. 7. (*Effective July 1, 2019*) For the fiscal years ending June 30,
258 2020, and June 30, 2021, the Department of Education shall establish
259 and administer a principal induction pilot program. Such pilot
260 program shall provide opportunities for peer mentoring for new
261 school principals and include executive leadership and workforce
262 development as key principles in the professional development for
263 new school principals. In developing the pilot program, the
264 department shall standardize existing principal induction programs
265 being administered by local and regional boards of education across
266 the state. The department shall permit any local or regional board of
267 education to participate in the pilot program, and may select up to five
268 additional boards of education to participate. A local or regional board
269 of education participating in the pilot program may partner with
270 businesses in the state to implement the pilot program. Not later than
271 January 1, 2022, the department shall submit an evaluation of the pilot
272 program to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
273 having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with
274 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

275 Sec. 8. Section 10-264q of the general statutes is repealed and the
276 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

277 Notwithstanding subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-264l,

278 an interdistrict magnet school program that (1) does not assist the state
 279 in meeting the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et
 280 al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013
 281 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al.,
 282 as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and (2)
 283 is not in compliance with the enrollment requirements for students of
 284 racial minorities, pursuant to section 10-264l, following the submission
 285 of student information data of such interdistrict magnet school
 286 program to the state-wide public school information system, pursuant
 287 to section 10-10a, on or before October 1, [2015] 2019, shall remain
 288 eligible for an interdistrict magnet school operating grant pursuant to
 289 section 10-264l for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30,
 290 2021, if such interdistrict magnet school program submits a compliance
 291 plan to the Commissioner of Education and the commissioner
 292 approves such plan.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-91j(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-16b
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-151(a)(6)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-155k
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-264q

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*